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4 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
5 DISTRICT OF NEVADA  
6 RENO, NEVADA

7 JOHN CARSTARPHEN, an individual, ) 3:07-cv-00542-ECR-RAM  
8 )  
9 Plaintiff, )  
10 vs. ) Order  
11 )  
12 RICHARD MILSNER, an individual )  
13 and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive. )  
14 Defendant. )  
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14 This case involves claims of breach of fiduciary duty and self-  
15 dealing brought by a minority shareholder against the majority  
16 shareholder of a corporation. Plaintiff John Carstarphen  
17 ("Plaintiff" or "Carstarphen") alleges that Defendant Richard  
18 Milsner ("Defendant" or "Milsner"), a director of American  
19 Medflight, Inc. ("AMF"), breached his fiduciary duties in relation  
20 to certain transactions involving AMF stock, as well as certain  
21 business dealings between AMF and another company, Reno Flying  
22 Service, Inc. ("RFS"), of which Milsner is majority shareholder.  
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24 Now before the Court are Carstarphen's Motion to Amend  
25 Complaint (#126), Carstarphen's Motion for Summary Judgment on the  
26 Counterclaims (#128), and Milsner's Motion for Summary Judgment  
27 (#131).  
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The motions are ripe, and we now rule on them.

## I. Background

1  
2 Plaintiff Carstarphen has been the owner of a one-third share  
3 of AMF's issued stock since the company's founding in 1993. (First  
4 Am. Compl. ¶ 6 (#4).) In 1993, Defendant Milsner also owned a one-  
5 third share in the company, with the remaining one-third share owned  
6 by John Dawson ("Dawson"), who is not a party to this lawsuit.  
7 (Id.) Since 1993, Carstarphen, Milsner, and Dawson have comprised  
8 AMF's three-person Board of Directors. (Id.) AMF has an Employee  
9 Stock Option Plan ("AMF ESOP"), the trustees of which are Milsner  
10 and Dawson. (Id.)

11 Milsner is the owner of ninety six and one-quarter percent of  
12 RFS, which was incorporated in 1991. (Id. ¶ 7.) Dawson owns the  
13 remaining shares of RFS. (Id.) In 1998, Dawson's one-third share  
14 of AMF stock was sold to RFS. (Id. ¶ 14.) Thus, Milsner controlled  
15 two-thirds of American Medflight stock, one-third individually and  
16 one-third through his controlling interest in RFS. (Id.)

17 In 2005, AMF ESOP purchased both the one-third share of AMF  
18 owned by Milsner individually and the one-third share of AMF owned  
19 by RFS at a price of \$2310 per share. (Id. ¶ 16.) Carstarphen was  
20 invited to sell his one-third share to AMF ESOP at the same price,  
21 but allegedly only on the condition that Carstarphen dismiss certain  
22 other litigation he had pending in Nevada state court against  
23 Milsner and Dawson, among others. (Id. ¶ 15.) Carstarphen  
24 declined. (Id.)

25 Plaintiff filed suit in this Court on November 13, 2007 (#1).  
26 Plaintiff's first claim for relief, alleging "breach of fiduciary  
27 duty and self dealing," arises out of these 2005 transactions  
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1 involving the sale of AMF stock to AMF ESOP. At the time of the  
2 purchase of Milsner's and RFS's shares in AMF, AMF ESOP did not have  
3 sufficient cash to pay the purchase price immediately. (Id.) The  
4 balance of the purchase price was financed via a promissory note.  
5 (Id.) The promissory note appeared on AMF's financial statements as  
6 a \$3.4 million liability. (Id. ¶ 17.) With this liability,  
7 Carstarphen's shares were allegedly devalued from a market value of  
8 \$2310 per share to approximately \$400 per share, a loss of over \$1.5  
9 million in value. (Id. ¶ 17.) He argues that Milsner's role in  
10 implementing these transactions, which resulted in a loss for  
11 Carstarphen and a personal gain for Milsner, amounts to a breach of  
12 his fiduciary duties. (Id. ¶ 19-20.)

13 Plaintiff's second claim for relief, also styled as a claim for  
14 "breach of fiduciary duty and self dealing," arises out of certain  
15 business dealings between AMF and RFS, which he alleges constitute  
16 breaches of Milsner's fiduciary duties. (Id. ¶ 23.) Specifically,  
17 Carstarphen objects to three categories of actions taken by AMF  
18 under the control of Milsner: (1) payment of a monthly "consulting  
19 fee" to RFS, (2) leasing aircraft from RFS instead of purchasing  
20 aircraft for AMF, and (3) using RFS for repair of AMF airplanes  
21 instead of hiring in-house maintenance personnel. (Id.)  
22 Carstarphen alleges that each of these actions is taken for the  
23 benefit of RFS and Milsner as majority shareholder of RFS, in breach  
24 of Milsner's fiduciary duties to AMF and to Carstarphen as a  
25 minority shareholder of AMF. (Id.)

1 Milsner has denied Carstarphen's allegations and asserted a  
2 number of counterclaims.<sup>1</sup> (Answer (#35).) Milsner's counterclaims  
3 consist of the following claims for relief: (1) Intentional  
4 Interference with Contractual Relations; (2) Breach of Fiduciary  
5 Duty; (3) Intentional Interference with Prospective Economic  
6 Advantage; (4) Breach of Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing –  
7 Both Contractual and Tortious; (5) Negligence; and (6) Attorney's  
8 Fees.

9 On June 17, 2010, Carstarphen filed a Motion to Amend Complaint  
10 (#126). On July 6, 2010, Milsner opposed (#133) the Motion to Amend  
11 Complaint (#126). On July 12, 2010, Carstarphen replied (#134).

12 On June 28, 2010, Carstarphen filed a Motion for Summary  
13 Judgment on Milsner's Counterclaims (#128). On August 2, 2010,  
14 Milsner opposed (#138). On August 19, 2010, Carstarphen filed his  
15 reply (#148).

16 On July 6, 2010, Milsner filed his Motion for Summary Judgment  
17 (#131). On August 6, 2010, Carstarphen opposed (#140). On August  
18 30, 2010, Milsner replied (#151).

19 On November 15, 2010, Milsner filed a Notice of Bankruptcy  
20 (#152). On February 24, 2011, Carstarphen filed a Notice of Limited  
21 Relief from Bankruptcy Stay (#153) regarding the pending motions for  
22 summary judgment (##128, 131). On May 25, 2011, we filed a Minute  
23 Order (#154) noting that the bankruptcy stay still applies to the  
24 Motion to Amend (#126). On July 25, 2011, Carstarphen filed a  
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27 <sup>1</sup> Milsner also asserted claims against third parties, who have  
28 since been voluntarily dismissed from the case.

1 Notice of Limited Relief from Bankruptcy Stay (#155) regarding the  
2 Motion to Amend Complaint(#126).

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4 **II. Motion to Amend Complaint (#126)**

5 Carstarphen seeks to file a second amended complaint that adds  
6 certain factual allegations in support of his second claim for  
7 breach of fiduciary duty and self-dealing. The proposed amendments  
8 to the operative first amended complaint (#4) concern acts by  
9 Defendant that occurred in 2005, 2006, 2008, and 2009. (See Mot. to  
10 Amend Compl. at 14 (#126).) Federal Rule of Civil Procedure  
11 15(a)(2) provides that a party "may amend its pleading only with the  
12 opposing party's written consent or the court's leave. The court  
13 should freely give leave when justice so requires."

14 One factor to consider is whether granting the Motion to Amend  
15 Complaint (#126) would unduly prejudice Milsner. Jackson, 902 F.2d  
16 at 1387. Milsner argues that this case has already been delayed due  
17 to Carstarphen's dilatory tactics, and that Carstarphen gave no  
18 indication of a desire to amend the complaint until after discovery  
19 was virtually concluded, depositions taken, and considerable effort  
20 put forth into preparing a motion for summary judgment. While  
21 discovery may be reopened, we find that Carstarphen's last-minute  
22 motion to amend, containing very few additional allegations, most or  
23 all of which could have been brought earlier or are redundant of the  
24 allegations in the current complaint, serves mostly to prolong this  
25 litigation rather than to add substance to it.

26 Carstarphen filed his Motion to Amend Complaint (#126) on June  
27 17, 2010. After numerous extensions, the discovery cut-off date was

1 extended until June 25, 2010. The deadline for filing dispositive  
2 motions was July 3, 2010. This Motion to Amend Complaint (#126) was  
3 filed on the verge of this action approaching resolution or  
4 progress. One factor in a decision regarding a motion for leave to  
5 amend is undue delay in filing the motion. Jackson v. Bank of  
6 Hawaii, 902 F.2d 1385, 1388 (9th Cir. 1990). "Relevant to  
7 evaluating the delay issue is whether the moving party knew or  
8 should have known the facts and theories raised by the amendment in  
9 the original pleading." Id. Many of the new allegations  
10 Carstarphen seeks to add were known or should have been known to  
11 Carstarphen when he filed his original complaint (#1) and then the  
12 operative first amended complaint (#4) in 2007. For example,  
13 Carstarphen wishes to amend his complaint to add allegations about  
14 certain payments made by AMF to Milsner, allegedly for previously-  
15 guaranteed debt, made at least in November 2005, December 2006, and  
16 December 2009. These payments were noted on AMF's financial  
17 statements, and the statement for 2005 was produced by Carstarphen's  
18 attorney in the prior state court case in July 2007. (Opp'n. to  
19 Mot. to Amend Compl. at 4 (#133).) This action was not filed until  
20 November 13, 2007. Therefore, we feel that Carstarphen has unduly  
21 delayed amending his claims to include those allegations.

22 The allegations concerning events that occurred after November  
23 2007 were also known or should have been known, or are redundant of  
24 allegations contained in the first amended complaint (#4).  
25 Carstarphen alleges that Milsner entered into five year leases on  
26 behalf of AMF in September and October 2008, requiring AMF to lease  
27 RFS airplanes "at a rental rate of 20% above what Reno Flying  
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1 Service must pay back the bank.” (Mot. to Amend Compl. at 14  
2 (#126).) This allegation appears to be included in the First  
3 Amended Complaint (#4), and therefore amendment of the complaint is  
4 unnecessary. Carstarphen’s allegation regarding the \$100,000 check  
5 Milsner wrote to himself is not specifically included in the First  
6 Amended Complaint (#4), but Carstarphen’s undue delay in amending  
7 the complaint is a factor that gravitates against granting the  
8 Motion to Amend Complaint (#126). While we acknowledge that in some  
9 cases, relevant issues may only become apparent at the end of  
10 discovery, we find that the proposed changes were known to  
11 Carstarphen long before he filed his Motion to Amend (#126).  
12 Furthermore, we are not convinced that amendment is necessary here.  
13 Carstarphen is not bringing new claims, he is merely seeking to add  
14 allegations that support his existing claims of breach of fiduciary  
15 duty and self-dealing. We take no position on Carstarphen’s concern  
16 that his damages will be “cut-off” as of the date of his operative  
17 complaint if he is not allowed to amend. The issue of whether  
18 certain events that support Carstarphen’s claim for breach of  
19 fiduciary duty and self-dealing should be presented at trial and  
20 included in the damages has not been argued to the Court and will  
21 not be decided at this time. We do note, however, that it appears  
22 there is no support for the suggestion that damages must be strictly  
23 cut off as of the date of the filing of the complaint. See, e.g.,  
24 Int’l Bhd. of Elec. Workers v. A-1 Elect. Serv. Inc., 535 F.2d 1, 3-  
25 4 (10th Cir. 1976). Based on the foregoing reasons, we deny  
26 Carstarphen’s Motion to Amend Complaint (#126).

### III. Summary Judgment Standard

Summary judgment allows courts to avoid unnecessary trials where no material factual dispute exists. N.W. Motorcycle Ass'n v. U.S. Dep't of Agric., 18 F.3d 1468, 1471 (9th Cir. 1994). The court must view the evidence and the inferences arising therefrom in the light most favorable to the nonmoving party, Bagdadi v. Nazar, 84 F.3d 1194, 1197 (9th Cir. 1996), and should award summary judgment where no genuine issues of material fact remain in dispute and the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. FED. R. CIV. P. 56(c). Judgment as a matter of law is appropriate where there is no legally sufficient evidentiary basis for a reasonable jury to find for the nonmoving party. FED. R. CIV. P. 50(a). Where reasonable minds could differ on the material facts at issue, however, summary judgment should not be granted. Warren v. City of Carlsbad, 58 F.3d 439, 441 (9th Cir. 1995), cert. denied, 516 U.S. 1171 (1996).

The moving party bears the burden of informing the court of the basis for its motion, together with evidence demonstrating the absence of any genuine issue of material fact. Celotex Corp. v. Catrett, 477 U.S. 317, 323 (1986). Once the moving party has met its burden, the party opposing the motion may not rest upon mere allegations or denials in the pleadings, but must set forth specific facts showing that there exists a genuine issue for trial. Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc., 477 U.S. 242, 248 (1986). Although the parties may submit evidence in an inadmissible form – namely, depositions, admissions, interrogatory answers, and affidavits – only evidence which might be admissible at trial may be considered



1 by a trial court in ruling on a motion for summary judgment. FED.  
2 R. Civ. P. 56(c); Beyene v. Coleman Sec. Servs., Inc., 854 F.2d  
3 1179, 1181 (9th Cir. 1988).

4 In deciding whether to grant summary judgment, a court must  
5 take three necessary steps: (1) it must determine whether a fact is  
6 material; (2) it must determine whether there exists a genuine issue  
7 for the trier of fact, as determined by the documents submitted to  
8 the court; and (3) it must consider that evidence in light of the  
9 appropriate standard of proof. Anderson, 477 U.S. at 248. Summary  
10 judgment is not proper if material factual issues exist for trial.  
11 B.C. v. Plumas Unified Sch. Dist., 192 F.3d 1260, 1264 (9th Cir.  
12 1999). "As to materiality, only disputes over facts that might  
13 affect the outcome of the suit under the governing law will properly  
14 preclude the entry of summary judgment." Anderson, 477 U.S. at 248.  
15 Disputes over irrelevant or unnecessary facts should not be  
16 considered. Id. Where there is a complete failure of proof on an  
17 essential element of the nonmoving party's case, all other facts  
18 become immaterial, and the moving party is entitled to judgment as a  
19 matter of law. Celotex, 477 U.S. at 323. Summary judgment is not a  
20 disfavored procedural shortcut, but rather an integral part of the  
21 federal rules as a whole. Id.

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23 **IV. Motion for Summary Judgment on the Counterclaims (#128)**

24 Carstarphen argues that there are no disputed facts with  
25 regards to Milsner's counterclaims. Milsner brought six  
26 counterclaims: (1) intentional interference with contractual  
27 relations, (2) breach of fiduciary duty, (3) intentional

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1 interference with prospective economic advantage, (4) breach of  
2 covenant of good faith and fair dealing, (5) negligence, and (6)  
3 attorney's fees. Carstarphen asserts that the basis for all six  
4 counterclaims is simply a claim for abuse of process, and because  
5 Milsner cannot, according to Carstarphen, make a valid claim of  
6 abuse of process, all of the counterclaims must be adjudicated in  
7 favor of Carstarphen.

8       The elements of a claim for abuse of process are: "(1) an  
9 ulterior purpose by the defendants other than resolving a legal  
10 dispute, and (2) a willful act in the use of the legal process not  
11 proper in the regular conduct of the proceeding." Posadas v. City  
12 of Reno, 851 P.2d 438, 457 (Nev. 1993) (quoting Kovacs v. Acosta,  
13 787 P.2d 368, 369 (Nev. 1990)). We agree that a claim for abuse of  
14 process in Nevada cannot be based solely on the filing of a  
15 complaint. See, e.g., Childs v. Selznick, Nos 49342, 51919, 2009 WL  
16 3189335 at \*2 (Nev. 2009) (citing Laxalt v. McClatchy, 622 F. Supp.  
17 737, 752 (D. Nev. 1985)). Milsner asserts that his counterclaims  
18 are not based solely on the filing of a complaint. We decline to  
19 address whether Milsner's counterclaims fit the requirements of a  
20 claim for abuse of process, because Milsner did not bring an abuse  
21 of process claim.

22       Milsner has failed to carry his burden concerning his  
23 counterclaims. Milsner concedes that "[t]he core bad acts are  
24 abusive abuse of process" and then summarily states that "but the  
25 other legal theories are supported factually and legally, and  
26 Carstarphen has not proven otherwise." (Opp'n. to Pl's Mot. for  
27 Summ. J. at 13 (#138).) Milsner responds to Carstarphen's arguments  
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1 regarding abuse of process, and argues that there could be a claim  
2 for abuse of process, but does not show any factual or legal support  
3 for his actual counterclaims, none of which are for abuse of  
4 process.

5 While Carstarphen did not address each claim specifically,  
6 Carstarphen's argument is that all of Milsner's counterclaims are  
7 simply one claim for abuse of process. In light of Milsner's  
8 concession that the core bad acts amount to abuse of process, we  
9 believe that it is Milsner's burden to show that there are material  
10 issues of fact with respect to his counterclaims for intentional  
11 interference with contractual relations, breach of fiduciary duty,  
12 etc. Milsner has failed to do so, and we will grant Carstarphen's  
13 motion for summary judgment (#128) on the counterclaims.

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15 **V. Milsner's Motion for Summary Judgment (#131)**

16 Carstarphen's claims are both titled "Breach of Fiduciary Duty  
17 and Self-Dealing." (Am. Compl. (#4).) The first cause of action  
18 addresses the sale of stock to the AMF ESOP. The second cause of  
19 action concerns certain business dealings with RFS. Milsner asserts  
20 that laches, estoppel, and the business judgment rule bar  
21 Carstarphen's claims, and that Carstarphen has failed to show  
22 causation or damages.

23 **A. Sale of Stock to the AMF ESOP**

24 Carstarphen's first claim for breach of fiduciary duty and  
25 self-dealing is based on Milsner's sale of stock to the AMF ESOP.  
26 In December 2005, Milsner sold 1,600 shares to the AMF ESOP for  
27 \$2,310 per share. Milsner was paid part of the price in cash, and  
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1 was provided a promissory note for the balance of the purchase  
2 price. AMF guaranteed payment of annual contributions to the AMF  
3 ESOP, which caused a \$3,400,000 liability on the financial  
4 statements of AMF. Carstarphen argues that this set of events  
5 devalued AMF to a market value of less than \$1,000,000, and devalued  
6 his shares from a market value of \$2,310 per share to approximately  
7 \$400 per share, a loss of over \$1,500,000. Milsner responds that  
8 his sale of stock to the AMF ESOP created a contingent liability for  
9 AMF, but did not harm the "going concern" value of AMF. In support  
10 of his position, Milsner submitted an expert report. (Zachow Rep.  
11 Ex. 27 (#132-2).)

12 Carstarphen submitted a report prepared by James S. Proctor  
13 ("Proctor") and Heather M. Tryon ("Tryon") in support of his claim  
14 that Milsner's sale of stock to the AMF ESOP devalued the company  
15 and the value of Plaintiff's shares. (Proctor Rep. Ex. 32 (#140-  
16 4).) According to Proctor and Tryon, the AMF ESOP is a highly-  
17 leveraged ESOP. The purchase of Defendant's stock, valued at  
18 \$3,696,000, was funded with a note in the amount of \$3,333,356,  
19 making the ESOP 91% leveraged. Proctor and Tryon provide that a  
20 cash flow cushion of 20 percent to 50 percent over total annual debt  
21 service requirements is typical for an ESOP. Proctor and Tryon  
22 conclude that Milsner's sale of stock depressed the value of the  
23 stock, including that of Carstarphen, and put an unsustainable cash  
24 flow strain on AMF. They predict that AMF will default on its  
25 annual payments, and Milsner will regain a controlling interest in  
26 AMF. They estimate damages to AMF in the amount of \$5,197,469, and

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1 damages to Carstarphen in the amount of \$1,732,490. (Proctor Rep.  
2 Ex. 32 at 78 (#140-4).)

3 Milsner argues that Proctor's opinions are not admissible and  
4 his conclusions do not qualify as an admissible expert opinion.  
5 (Reply at 7 (#151).) Milsner's expert, Zachow, questioned Proctor's  
6 methodology and conclusions. (Zachow Rep. Ex. 27 (#132-2).)  
7 Proctor and Tryon acknowledge Zachow's report, but assert that  
8 Zachow's results are merely differences of opinion, and that  
9 Zachow's report does not change their conclusions. Proctor and  
10 Tryon are both certified public accountants, certified fraud  
11 examiners, and certified valuation analysts, each with nearly two  
12 decades or more of experience in their fields of business consulting  
13 and accounting. After examining the reports prepared by Proctor and  
14 Tryon, we decline to exclude Proctor and Tryon's report as  
15 unreliable, and take their analysis into account. Because  
16 Carstarphen has provided some evidence that he has suffered damages,  
17 we reject Milsner's argument that Carstarphen has not presented  
18 evidence of damages.

19 We also reject Milsner's arguments that the business judgment  
20 rule protects his sale of stock to the AMF ESOP. Because it is  
21 undisputed that Milsner is an interested director for the purposes  
22 of that transaction, and because Carstarphen has provided some  
23 evidence that there was no vote by disinterested directors, Milsner  
24 is unable to seek the deference that the business judgment rule  
25 affords. Milsner has not presented enough evidence that the  
26 transaction was fair to AMF at the time it was authorized or  
27 approved, and Carstarphen has presented some evidence that it was

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1 not, taking into account the amount of debt AMF took on in order to  
2 facilitate the transaction. Viewing the evidence in the light most  
3 favorable to Carstarphen, we find that there is a genuine issue of  
4 material fact regarding whether Milsner's actions involving the AMF  
5 ESOP constituted breach of his fiduciary duties.

6 Nor do we agree with Milsner's argument that Carstarphen should  
7 be estopped from challenging Defendant's sale of stock to the AMF  
8 ESOP because he voted in favor of the sale. Carstarphen admits that  
9 he voted in favor of the adoption of the ESOP, but states that the  
10 stockholders never voted on the issue of the sale of Milsner's stock  
11 to the ESOP. Instead, Milsner and Dawson approved the sale of  
12 Milsner's stock to the ESOP after the stockholder meeting. We also  
13 reject Milsner's argument that laches bars Carstarphen's claims. We  
14 see no evidence of the type of undue delay that would support a  
15 finding of laches.

16 In addition to his claims of devaluation, Carstarphen states  
17 that Milsner breached his fiduciary duties by conditioning  
18 Carstarphen's sale of stock to the AMF ESOP on Carstarphen dropping  
19 the state court action against Milsner and Dawson. Carstarphen did  
20 not dismiss the litigation or participate in selling stock to the  
21 AMF ESOP. Milsner provides evidence that the condition actually  
22 applied to Milsner guaranteeing a loan to provide Carstarphen with  
23 cash upon his sale of the stock. (Ex. 8 at 17-19 (#131-2).) The  
24 other option would have been for Carstarphen to sell his stock on  
25 the same terms as Milsner, that is, with only part of the payment in  
26 cash and a promissory note for the remainder. Carstarphen, on the  
27 other hand, has provided evidence that the condition in fact applied  
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1 to his sale of stock to the AMF ESOP. (Ex. 10 at 157-58 (#140-2).)  
2 We decline to grant summary judgment because there is a genuine  
3 issue of material fact regarding whether the condition was imposed  
4 on Carstarphen's sale of stock to the AMF ESOP.

5 **B. Business Dealings with RFS**

6 Carstarphen's second claim for breach of fiduciary duty and  
7 self-dealing concerns a monthly consulting fee of \$5,000 paid by AMF  
8 to RFS, the refusal to hire in-house maintenance personnel to  
9 service and repair AMF's airplanes and instead choosing to utilize  
10 RFS, and the decision to lease airplanes from RFS rather than  
11 purchasing a new airplane.

12 With respect to the monthly consulting fee, Milsner argues that  
13 Carstarphen should be estopped from bringing the claim because  
14 Carstarphen approved the consulting fee and also signed at least  
15 three checks facilitating this repayment. (Def.'s Mot. for Summ. J.  
16 at 37 (#131); Ex. 20 (#132-1); Ex. 25 (#132-1).) Milsner also  
17 argues that the monthly consulting fee was a proper payment made to  
18 repay RFS's historical subsidies of AMF. (Id.) Carstarphen denies  
19 that the consulting fee was approved by the Board of Directors or  
20 shareholders, but does not provide any evidence to support that  
21 assertion. (Pl.'s Opp'n. at 17 (#140).) The minutes of the  
22 shareholder meetings do not specifically discuss the monthly  
23 consulting fee, however, the minutes provide that "[t]he Treasurer  
24 of the corporation presented an oral report of the financial  
25 condition for the year ended December 31, [1999, 2000, 2001, 2002].  
26 No shareholder objections were raised." (Ex. 20 (#132-1).)  
27 Carstarphen signed each of the minutes, as well as the checks issued  
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1 in 1998. We agree that Carstarphen should not be allowed to  
2 challenge the validity of transactions he voted in favor of, and  
3 therefore, the monthly consulting fee cannot serve as the basis of  
4 Carstarphen's claim for breach of fiduciary duty and self-dealing.

5 Milsner argues that Carstarphen also supported the decision to  
6 lease airplanes from RFS rather than purchasing them. (Def's Mot.  
7 for Summ. J. at 44 (#131).) Carstarphen testified at a deposition  
8 that the only course AMF had available to it was for RFS to purchase  
9 the aircraft to lease to AMF, because AMF was denied financing due  
10 to the pending state court action. (Ex. 1 at 133-34 (#131-1).)  
11 Carstarphen also testified that he made no objections to the lease  
12 agreement. (Id. at 135.)

13 Carstarphen's experts, Proctor and Tryon, prepared a report  
14 stating that if AMF had purchased an additional aircraft instead of  
15 renting such from RFS, "it would have had an additional projected  
16 cash flow of approximately \$1,037,742" for the period 2005 through  
17 2012. (Proctor Rep. Ex. 32 at 5 (#140-4).) However, because  
18 Carstarphen has testified that AMF was unable to receive financing  
19 for the purchase of new aircraft and leasing from RFS was the only  
20 available course, the airplane leases are also insufficient to  
21 support a claim for breach of fiduciary duty and self-dealing.

22 Finally, Milsner argues that Carstarphen's allegation  
23 concerning airplane maintenance fails because maintenance and repair  
24 were never part of AMF's business plan, and the transactions were  
25 fair as to AMF. (Def.'s Mot. for Summ. J. at 46, 49 (#131).) Under  
26 Nev. Rev. Stat. 78.140, transactions are not void or voidable if  
27 they were fair as to the corporation at the time they were



1 authorized or approved. Carstarphen's experts state that had AMF  
2 employed two mechanics instead of paying RFS for repairs and  
3 maintenance it would have saved approximately \$1.2 million for 2005  
4 through 2009. (Proctor Rep. Ex. 32 at 6 (#140-4).) While Milsner  
5 argues that the fees paid to RFS were fair, he does not present  
6 evidence to support this conclusion. Proctor and Tryon, on the  
7 other hand, compare the fees paid to RFS with the fees that would  
8 have been paid to two FAA licensed mechanics. Because Milsner has  
9 not provided evidence from which we could find that the fees paid to  
10 RFS were fair, or that Carstarphen should be estopped because he  
11 voted in favor of the decision to use RFS's airplane maintenance  
12 personnel, we decline to grant summary judgment on Carstarphen's  
13 second claim for breach of fiduciary duty and self-dealing because  
14 there remains a genuine issue of material fact regarding the  
15 decision to use RFS's airplane maintenance personnel.

## 16 17 **VI. Conclusion**

18 Carstarphen's Motion for Leave to Amend (#126) shall be denied  
19 because Carstarphen unduly delayed amending the complaint, and  
20 because Carstarphen seeks to add specific instances of self-dealing  
21 to the complaint, rather than to add new claims or new parties. To  
22 the extent that such allegations support Carstarphen's existing  
23 claims for breach of fiduciary duty and self-dealing, amendment of  
24 the complaint is not necessary to allow Carstarphen to present such  
25 evidence in this case.

1 Carstarphen's Motion for Summary Judgment on the Counterclaims  
2 (#128) shall be granted because Milsner has not shown any genuine  
3 issues of material fact with respect to the counterclaims.

4 Milsner's Motion for Summary Judgment (#131) shall be denied.  
5 Carstarphen has presented sufficient evidence that genuine issues of  
6 material fact remain on his claims for breach of fiduciary duty and  
7 self-dealing based on Milsner's sale of stock to the AMF ESOP and  
8 the decision to use RFS's airplane maintenance personnel.

9  
10 **IT IS, THEREFORE, HEREBY ORDERED** that Carstarphen's Motion for  
11 Leave to Amend (#126) is **DENIED**.

12  
13 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Carstarphen's Motion for Summary  
14 Judgment on the Counterclaims (#128) is **GRANTED**.

15  
16 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Milsner's Motion for Summary  
17 Judgment (#131) is **DENIED**.

18  
19  
20 DATED: October 14, 2011.

21   
22 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE